

SECTION 8.0

List of Preparers and Organizations Consulted

8.0 EIR/EA PREPARERS AND PERSONS AND ORGANIZATIONS CONTACTED

8.1 EIR/EA Preparers

This Environmental Impact Report was prepared for the County of Imperial by BRG Consulting, Inc., at 304 Ivy Street, San Diego, California, 92101. The following professionals participated in its preparation:

County of Imperial

Jim Minnick, Planning Division Manager
Richard Cabanilla, Planner IV
Patricia Valenzuela, Planner III

Bureau of Land Management

Daniel Steward, Resource Branch Chief
Jennifer Whyte, Realty Specialist
Donna Clinton, Biologist
Andrew Trouette, Natural Resource Specialist
Jenny Haggard Blanchard, Archaeologist
Jeffrey Childers, Planning and Environmental Coordinator
Dallas Meeks, Outdoor Recreation Planner
John Johnson, Wilderness Coordinator

BRG Consulting, Inc.

Tim Gnibus, AICP, Vice President
Kathie Washington, Project Manager
Mary Brady, Production Manager
Totran Mai, Graphics/GIS
Sharyn Del Rosario, Environmental Analyst
John Addenbrooke, Environmental Analyst

BRG Consulting was assisted by the following consultants:

ASM Affiliates, Inc., (Third-Party Cultural Resources Review)

John Cook, President

Environmental Resources Management, (Third-Party Hazardous Materials Review)

Kevin Bryan, Program Director

Fuscoe Engineering, (Third-Party Hydrology and Water Quality Review)

Paul Halaand, P.E., Project Manager

Investigative Science and Engineering, Inc. (ISE), Air Quality, Greenhouse Gas, Noise

Rick Tavares, Project Principal

Ken Wilson CRM Consulting, (Cultural Resources)

Ken Wilson, Archaeologist

Landmark Consultants, Inc., Geology, Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Jeffery O. Lyon, PE, President

Steven K. Williams, CEG, Senior Engineering Geologist

Julian R. Avalos, PE, Senior Engineer

Lawson & Associates, (Third-Party Geotechnical Review)

Kevin Colson, Vice President

LOS Engineering, Inc., Traffic

Justin Rasas, Principal

Merkel & Associates, Inc. (Third-Party Biological Resources Review)

Nanci Gulley, Senior Biologist

RECON Environmental, Inc., Biological Resources, Cultural Resources

Cheri A Boucher, Senior Project Biologist

Carianne S. Funicelli Campbell, Vegetation Ecologist

Colby Henley, Senior Biologist

Carmen Zepeda-Herman, Archaeologist

Tetra Tech, Inc., Hazards and Hazardous Materials

Matt Manderfeld, Principal

Tamara Pelham, Supervisor

Tory R. Walker Engineering, Inc., Hydrology and Water Quality

Tory R. Walker, R.C.E. 45005, President

8.2 Persons and Organizations Contacted

The following persons and organizations were contacted in preparation of this document:

Kelly Strickland of Cassidy Turley BRE Commercial, Renewable Energies Division

In addition to the scoping and EA/Draft EIR public review processes, the BLM has been consulting and coordinating with public agencies who may be requested to take action on the Imperial Solar Energy Center South project. That ongoing consultation and coordination is discussed in the following sections.

8.2.1 United States Fish and Wildlife Service

The BLM permit, consultation, and coordination with the United States Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) required for the Imperial Solar Energy Center South project complies with the Federal Endangered Species Act (ESA) regarding potential take of the flat-tailed horned lizard (FTHL). "Take" of a species listed under the Federal ESA is prohibited except as authorized through consultation with USFWS and issuance of an Incidental Take Statement under Section 7 or 10 of the ESA, depending on whether there is Federal agency action required for the proposed project (i.e., a Federal permit required or funding involved). Because Federal agency action has been identified for the Imperial Solar Energy Center South project, Section 7 consultation/conferencing between the BLM and USFWS is required prior to any take authorization for the Imperial Solar Energy Center South project under the ESA from the USFWS. The Carlsbad Field Office of the USFWS oversees ESA permitting actions in the project area.

The BLM will submit a Biological Assessment for take of FTHL to the USFWS for the Imperial Solar Energy Center South project. It is expected that the USFWS Biological Opinion will conclude that the project "...may affect, likely to adversely affect" the FTHL.

Although the FTHL is not federally listed under the ESA at this time, it is anticipated that this species may be listed during the construction or operation of the Imperial Solar Energy Center South project. To avoid or reduce possible time constraints, the FTHL was included in the Biological Assessment for the Imperial Solar Energy Center South project, should this species become Federally listed. Because the FTHL has not been listed as of July 2010, the BLM is undergoing conferencing, rather than consultation, with the USFWS for this species. Because the BLM and USFWS are signatories in the FTHL Interagency Coordinating Committee (ICC), it is anticipated that the recommendations stated in the FTHL Rangewide Management Strategy (FTHL ICC 2003) will be in the USFWS conferencing opinion. Additionally, the BLM is requesting concurrence from the USFWS that a take permit is not required for the Golden Eagle. The process of consultation of USFWS for the Imperial Solar Energy Center South project is ongoing.

8.2.2 Native American Consultation/Coordination and Section 106 Consultation/Coordination

A key requirement of cultural resources analysis under CEQA, NEPA, and Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended 1992 (NHPA), is to ascertain if a proposed undertaking has the potential to impact historic sites and properties that qualify for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places or the California Register of Historical Resources.

36 CFR 800, the implementing regulations for the NHPA, outlines the process to be undertaken for the identification, evaluation, effect determinations, and development of treatments for properties that might be affected. The process is undertaken in consultation between the BLM, State Historic Preservation Officer

(SHPO), Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP), federally recognized Tribes (Tribes), and interested parties.

At this time, it is anticipated, that all historic properties and archaeological sites can be avoided in the Imperial Solar Energy Center South Project by selection of the proposed action/alternative. The proposed action was developed with conditions or design features to purposely avoid all archaeological sites. The BLM has made initial contacts with the SHPO and the Tribes to begin consultations towards a 'no adverse' effect determination under 36 CFR 800 for this undertaking.

The BLM initiated tribal consultation for the Imperial Solar Energy Center South Project by letter on June 24, 2010, and continues to consult with the Tribes as outlined in 36 CFR 800. The BLM must consult to identify properties of religious and cultural significance to the Tribes to be addressed in the Section 106 process. The following Tribes or tribal organizations have been invited to be consulting parties:

- Campo Kumeyaay Nation
- Cocopah Indian Tribe
- Ewiiapaayp Band of Kumeyaay Indians
- Fort Yuma Indian Reservation
- Kwaaymii Laguna Band of Indians
- La Posta Band of Kumeyaay Indians
- Manzanita Band of Kumeyaay Indians
- San Pasqual Band of Diegueno Indians
- Santa Ysabel Band of Diegueno Indians
- Torres-Martinez Desert Cahuilla Indians

Section 106 consultation with the SHPO, ACHP, Tribes, and interested parties for the Imperial Solar Energy Center South project is ongoing.